

Message Text

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ACTION IO-15

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 7652

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIN, ECON, UN, BR
SUBJECT: NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE; COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (COW)

REF: (A) STATE 233264 (B) STATE 232941

1. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE COW IMPASSE WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S UN DIVISION (VALLE) AND WITH THE CHIEF OF THE ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT (PROENCA ROSA). THE LATTER IS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR NORTH-SOUTH QUESTIONS. IT SEEMS CLEAR FROM THESE DISCUSSIONS THAT THE GOB PARTICIPATED IN A G-77 DISCUSSION OF TACTICS FOR THE SEPTEMBER COW MEETING AND AGREED TO GO ALONG WITH THE MAJORITY VIEW ALTHOUGH IT REFUSED TO TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE PROCEEDINGS. GOB OFFICIALS SEEMED UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO GIVE THEIR ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE CURRENT IMPASSE FOR THE FUTURE OF THE N-S DIALOGUE. THEY INDICATED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA WAS TO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN A G-77 MINISTERIAL MEETING IN NEW YORK ON THE MARGIN OF THE UNGA. THEY WERE UNSURE ABOUT THE POSITION HE MIGHT HAVE TAKEN AT THE MEETING, OR IF HE DID NOT ATTEND THEY WERE UNAWARE OF INSTRUCTIONS HE MAY HAVE GIVEN TO THE GOB MISSION.

2. PROENCA COMPLAINED THAT MODERATES ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY IN G-77 MEETINGS BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF
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PROGRESS ON NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES IN VARIOUS BODIES SUCH AS THE RECENT COFFEE AND SUGAR SESSIONS AND ON THE DIFFICULTIES IN NEGOTIATIONS ON COPPER AND THE COMMON FUND, FOR EXAMPLE. WE POINTED OUT THAT SOME OF THE SAME ELEMENTS PUSHING THE G-77 INTO MORE EXTREME POSITIONS ARE THE SAME ONES BLOCKING PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS ON DETAILS. WE STRESSED OUR DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE G-77

HAD TAKEN THE STEP BACKWARD OF REOPENING THE ISSUE OF
THE COW MANDATE AND UNDERLINED THE SERIOUS US APPROACH
TO A DISCUSSION OF REAL ISSUES.

3. BEFORE LEAVING FOR WASHINGTON SEPTEMBER 29 TO CHAIR
THE BRAZILIAN DELEGATION TO THE MEETING OF THE US-BRAZIL
JOINT GROUP ON ENERGY TECHNOLOGY, PROENCA WILL SEE THE
FOREIGN MINISTER. HE EXPECTS TO HAVE SOME TIME FREE
ON THE AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 2, MOST OF OCTOBER 3, AND
THE MORNING OF OCTOBER 4. HE MUST RETURN TO BRAZIL
THE EVENING OF OCTOBER 4 TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GISCARD
VISIT. WE RECOMMEND THAT IF AT ALL POSSIBLE A MEETING
FOR PROENCA WITH UNDER SECRETARY COOPER BE ARRANGED TO
DISCUSS NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES.

HIGH

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